

# 221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Photo by Wendy McLendon

Construction workers finish working on a lane divider at the South Gate entrance to Wiesbaden Army Airfield. The South Gate is open Monday through Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

## New entry point open at airfield

By Cassandra Kardeke

221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Commuters to Wiesbaden Army Airfield can now enter the installation through the South Gate.

After months of construction and renovation, the South Gate is now the primary entry point into the airfield. With the opening of this gate, the Heer Strasse gate is now closed.

“Whether you are an identification card holder or signing in a guest we can accommodate it,” said Master Sgt. Charles Venable, noncommissioned officer at Team 221st Directorate of Public Works. The new gate, however, is not for contractors or trucks entering the installation.

The new gate offers several amenities that were not readily available for force protection

providers and guards to include a permanent guard house and bulletproof protection, telephone system, computer communications and covered search area. The gate will also offer an exit point in a separate lane.

“Eventually, we will be constructing a traffic circle in front of the Dömane to help the flow of traffic coming in and out of the gate, but that won’t be for a couple of months,” said Venable. Although the gate is open for business, commuters will note that minor construction will continue to complete the renovations. The \$1.2 million project also includes renovations and remodeling of the Truck Gate which will begin later this spring.

The hours of the South Gate are 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Truck Gate will remain open as an alternate entry point 24 hours a day.



Photo by Cassandra Kardeke

## Grand parade in Mainz

It’s called Carnivale in Italy, Mardi Gras in the United States and Fasching (or Fastnacht) in Germany. Children and adults alike dress in costumes and attend parties or masked balls. One of Germany’s largest Fasching parades was held in downtown Mainz March 3.

# Tax information for deploying soldiers

By Cathy Pulley-Ballard  
Wiesbaden Legal Center

Getting ready to deploy? Worried about filing your taxes?

Here’s a rule of thumb: If you are deploying to a Combat Zone or Qualified Hazardous Duty Area you may wait until you return from the deployment to file your federal income tax return.

### What are CZ and QHDA?

These zones and areas are defined by the president or Congress. Currently these zones include the Persian Gulf (Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates), Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Yugoslavia, Albania, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Jordan, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, Jordan, Yemen and the Philippines (certain areas are defined by longitude and latitude). These areas are subject to change and some areas may be added — check with your tax center.

### Should you wait to file?

After you return from deployment to a CZ or QHDA, you have 180 days to file your tax return (you can add a few days to that number if you deploy before April 15, 2003 for the 2002 tax year). However if you are due a refund, and can file, do so. Why wait to get your money from the government when you can use it now to pay off debt or put it in savings? If you owe money on your tax return, you may want to consider waiting until you return to file because you will not be charged interest or penalties on the amount owed.

### What about your spouse?

Spouses of service members entitled to CZ/QHDA benefits are entitled to the same suspension of time for filing tax returns.

### Deployed civilians?

Extensions for filing also apply to civilians acting under the direction of the U.S. armed forces in support of those forces (DoD em-

ployees and civilian employees of defense contractors).

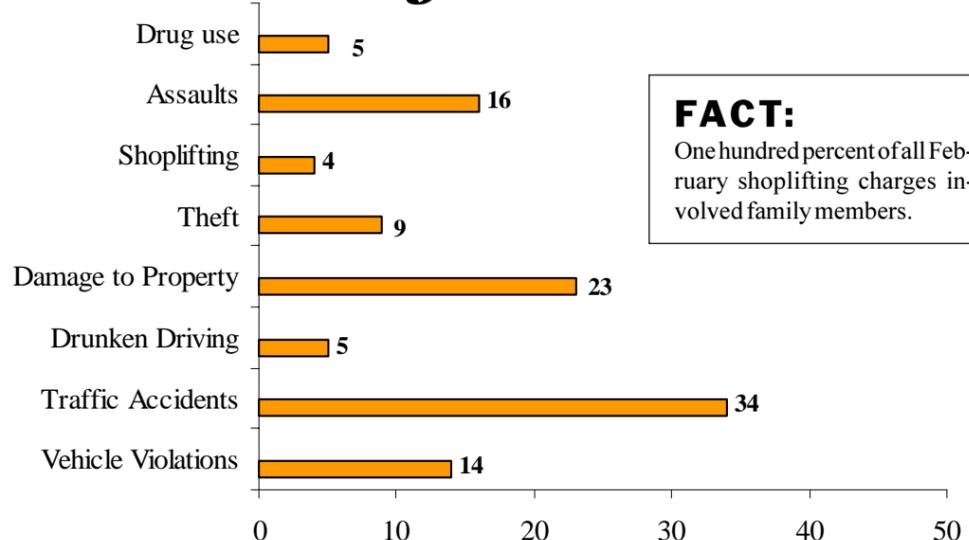
Going to a CZ or QHDA basically puts you in a tax freeze. Ask your tax center whether the tax freeze

will apply if you have other issues with the Internal Revenue Service (such as past year tax returns).

Have other questions? Call the Wiesbaden Tax Center at mil 337-

4753 or (civ)0611-705-4753. Located at Heer Strasse 31 it is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 29, April 5 and 12.

## February crime statistics



### FACT:

One hundred percent of all February shoplifting charges involved family members.

# 221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Photos by Cassandra Kardeke

Hundreds of children fill the floor of the new children's wing at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Community Library March 1 to celebrate the 99th birthday of Theodor S. Geisel, better known to readers around the world as Dr. Seuss. Even the Cat in the Hat made a special appearance to read his favorite Dr. Seuss book, aptly titled "The Cat in the Hat."

## Library honors author; opens children's section

By Wendy McLendon

221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

The Wiesbaden Army Airfield Community Library kicked off the month of March with a variety of events.

The library held a birthday party in honor of Dr. Seuss and at the same time introduced the community to a newly remodeled facility.

A new children's wing has been added to the building, "where being quiet is not a must," said Sherrie Floyd, librarian. Children can read, join in on storytime or just enjoy peering through a new aquarium that has been added to the room. The non-fiction section has been moved to

another location in the library, complete with study area, to accommodate those who need a little quiet time.

"Every aspect of the library has improved, especially in service to the children," said

**"Every aspect of the library has improved, especially in service to the children." – Sherrie Floyd, Wiesbaden Army Airfield librarian**

Floyd. Renovations include a new look to the lobby area with fresh paint and tile as well as remodeled restrooms, including handicap access. Throughout the library, fresh paint, carpet and shelving have been installed giving the facility a brighter and new decor.

The library is also expecting 10 new

computers to be installed in the near future which will be open for public use for research, email and job hunting. "Eventually we will be cabled for fiber-optics to help speed up the Internet connections," said Floyd.

The only thing that has not changed at the library are the hours. Closed on Fridays, the library is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The Cat in the Hat, portrayed by Jerry Stein, reads to children in the new children's wing at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Community Library. A Dr. Seuss birthday party was held in honor of the author March 1 in conjunction with the re-opening of the library.



# 221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

## Community happenings

### Free DoD show

The Amelia Earhart Playhouse and Armed Forces Entertainment present a free live performance of "Hack and Slash" March 23 at 7:30 p.m. This hilarious two-man sword-fighting show is suitable for all ages. The Amelia Earhart Playhouse is located in Building 5312 on Konrad-Adenauer Ring in Wiesbaden. Call mil 336-2473 for more information.

### Dexheim tour

Dexheim Army Community Service offers a new bus tour visiting interesting cities and locations to help get acquainted with your new community. The first tour is scheduled for March 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sign up at Dexheim ACS by March 19. Another tour will be held April 23. For more information or to reserve a seat call mil 334-5716 or civ (06133)69-622.

### Youth fest

Dexheim Army Community Service hosts a Kid's Fun Fest April 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in recognition of the Month of the Military Child. Activities include the Whopper Hopper, McGruff the Crimefighting Dog, face painting, music, kid-care photos and much more. Dexheim ACS is in Building 6460 in the housing area at Anderson Barracks.

### Kinderfest set

The Team 221st Kinderfest will be held April 19 at the Youth Center Complex in Hainerberg Housing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year's theme, "Visions of the Future," will feature plenty of fun and free activities including a youth marathon, Easter egg hunt, European and American Teen Idol Contest and much more. Pick up the April 15

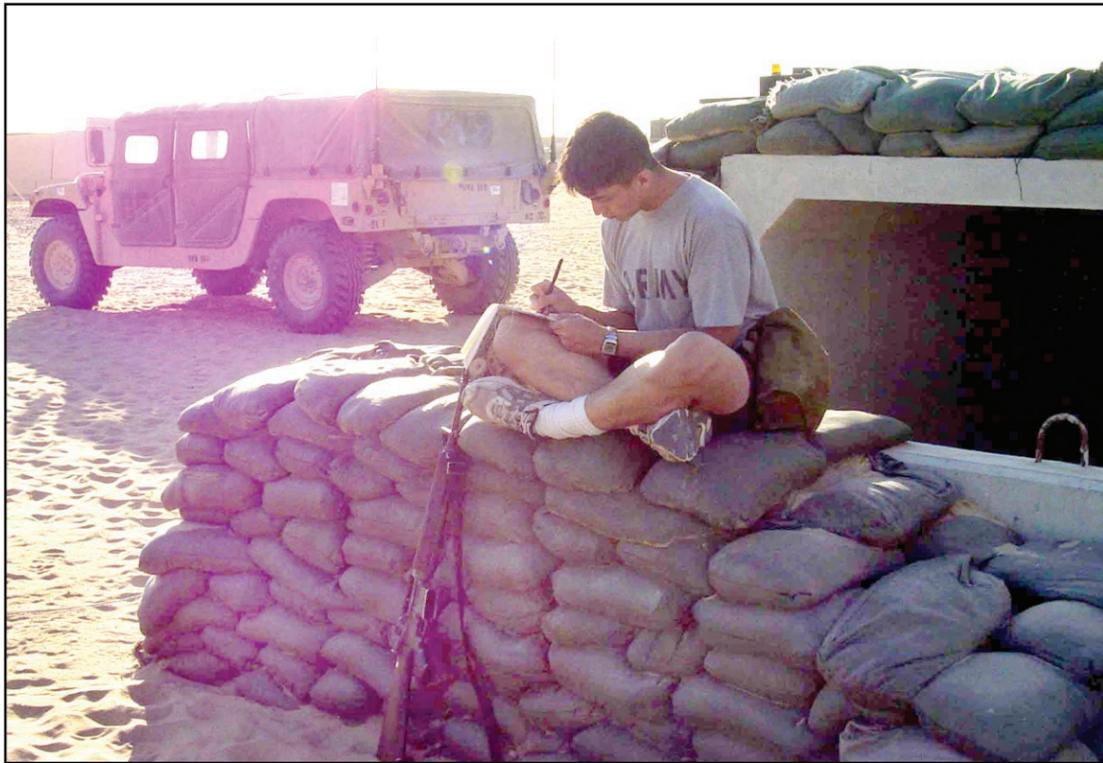


Photo by Maj. Dave Accetta

### Greetings from the Gulf

A 3rd Corps Support Command soldier takes time out on a bunker in the Persian Gulf region to write a letter home. Headquartered at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, soldiers deployed earlier last month to the Central Command.

issue of the *Herald Union* to find out more.

### Families needed

Host families are needed to house visiting students attending the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe 2003 all Europe Drama Festival at H.H. Arnold High School April 27-30. Hosts must be prepared to provide some transportation, overnight accommodations and breakfasts for three days. To register as a host family or for more information call mil 337-6319 or civ (0611)380-6319 during duty hours

or civ (0611) 174 8474 during the evening hours.

### Go skydiving

Skydiving is available through Wiesbaden and Dexheim Outdoor Recreation centers. For more information call mil 337-5760, 334-5818 or civ (06133)69818.

### No DA photos

No Department of Army photos will be taken at the Training Support Center March 18-21 while the staff trains. Customers needing DA photos must make appointments after this time. For more information call mil 337-5006 or civ (0611) 705-5006.

### Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to deliver refreshments to troops on force protection duty. For more information call the USO at civ (0611) 721-010.

The Tony Bass Fitness Center needs volunteers for equipment issue, athletic events and enforcing facility rules. Work schedules can be tailored to meet individual needs. For more information call mil 337-5943 or civ (0611) 705-5943.

The American Red Cross is looking for volunteers for the Healthy Baby Pregnancy class and at both the community mailrooms and the Army Post Office. For more information call mil 337-1760 or civ (0611) 705-1760.

### Parent support

A Single Parent Support Group meets every first and third Wednesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Dexheim Army Community Service. Free lunch is provided. For more information call mil 334-5716.

### German lessons

Learn how to speak German free at Dexheim Army Community Service every Wednesday and Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Call mil 334-5622 or civ (06133)69622 to register.

### St. Patrick's Day dance March 21

A St. Patrick's Day dance for middle school students will be held March 21 from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Youth Services Gym. There will be games, music and fun for students in grades six through eight as well as green drinks and snacks. Anyone wearing a green shirt or pants will receive \$1 off of the entry price. For more information call mil 337-6726 or civ (0611) 705-6726.

### Toastmasters Club

Become a more confident speaker with the help of the Word-Weavers Toastmasters Club. Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Hotel Merkur in Wiesbaden-Nordenstadt. For more information email [president@wordweavers.de](mailto:president@wordweavers.de).

### Digital lab

The Römer Art Center offers a digital lab to work on 35mm or digital photos, scan negatives and photos or learn techniques in Adobe PhotoShop. Call mil 337-5722 or civ (0611)705-5722.

### Towing service

The Mainz-Kastel Auto Skills Center provides a towing service Monday through Friday from noon to 8 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call mil 334-2460 or civ (06134)604460.

### Maintenance class

Learn how to change oil, check tire pressure, change a flat tire and maintain fluid levels at a free basic maintenance class at the Mainz Kastel Auto Skills Center March 21 from 4-6 p.m. For more information call mil 334-2460.

### Ramstein trip

Wiesbaden Youth Services sponsors a shopping and sight-seeing trip to Ramstein March 29 from noon to 7 p.m. for students in grades six through 12. The trip is open to all YS members. Call mil 337-6726 or civ (0611) 705-6726 for more information or sign up at the Youth Services.

### Playstation tourney

Show off your gaming skills during the Playstation 2 Tournament at Wiesbaden Youth Services March 22 from 5-7 p.m. Grand prize of a Playstation 2 will go to the winner. Call mil 337-6726 or civ (0611) 705-6726 for more information.

### Spouses club luncheon

The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club monthly luncheon will be held March 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Community Activity Center. For reservations call civ (0611) 565 7401 or (0611)5055712.

### Newcomer class

Army Family Team Building offers newcomers classes at the Information Center in the American Arms Hotel the first and third Monday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m.

### Art workshops

The Römer Art Center offers Saturday art workshops in basket weaving, gift making, glass and tile painting, watercolor, quilting and Russian Easter egg painting. Call mil 337-5722 or civ (0611) 705-5722 for more information.

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Photos by Cassandra Kardeke

## **Big planes, small airfield**

Wiesbaden Army Airfield community members got a different perspective of an airfield that routinely caters to helicopters and small planes when two Air Force C-17s landed during the first week of March. The aircraft, from Charleston, S.C., and McChord Air Force Base, Wash., had to land at the airfield because of severe weather conditions at Ramstein Air Base. "After 26 hours and three attempted approaches at Ramstein, we were finally given authorization to fly into Wiesbaden and wait for a relief crew from Rhein-Main Air Base," said Air Force augmentee Master Sgt. Michael Smith. According to airfield operations manager, Jeff Stone, the airfield is equipped to handle large planes such as the C-17, C-141 and C-130.

## Clinic stands up command

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

The Baumholder Dental Clinic Command was reactivated March 6, 21 months after being downsized and deactivated.

"After they saw what problems developed, with personnel actions, soldiers potentially losing points for not having their records documented and other training issues, it was decided that it was more beneficial to have a clinic command here," said Col. E. Eldon Mitchell, Baumholder Dental Clinic commander.

After the clinic was deactivated in June 2001, its soldiers were forced to travel to Kleber Kaserne, some 40 miles away, to take care of personnel actions, financial matters and other issues such as in- and out processing.

"By bringing it back to Baumholder (the command) we're able to take care of the soldiers' needs and reduce expenses," said

Mitchell.

"We will have more responsibility in maintaining our soldiers' records. It will also give us more control over them in that we can get quicker remedies by having them being served at Baumholder. Plus we also felt somewhat like a step-child because Baumholder is a large community, but we did not share the same personnel services battalion, finance, and other facilities such as in and out processing," said Mitchell.

Instead of soldiers traveling 40 miles to renew their ID cards at Kleber Kaserne, they can now walk to the 90th Personnel Service Battalion and accomplish this within minutes, he said.

"It is also another opportunity in the dental corps to assume a leadership position," said Mitchell. "It will help the younger, future leaders in the dental corps by providing another leadership position where they can groom themselves to take over the corps or to be competitive within their profession."

## Blue Ribbon Month Community lines up various events

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month in the U.S. Army, highlighted by the annual national Blue Ribbon Campaign.

During April the 222nd Base Support Battalion Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will continue the tradition of the Blue Ribbon Campaign.

The Army's theme for this year is "Our Country, Our Children: Protecting Them Both." While the military focuses its attention on protecting the country and American way of life all community members must also remember that children are the country's greatest resource and must always be protected, officials said.

All members of the 222nd BSB community must take responsibility for keeping our children safe. The 222nd BSB Family Advocacy Program has the following activities and events scheduled for the month of April:

The Blue Ribbon Campaign kicks off April 4 at 11 a.m. with a blue ribbon cutting ceremony at Army Community Service.

Blue ribbons will be distributed in the schools, Child Development Centers and various locations throughout the community during

the first week of April.

The Family Advocacy Program will operate an information table at the Post Exchange April 1, 2, 15 and 16 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Family Advocacy Program will sponsor a Blue Ribbon Campaign coloring contest for elementary school age children. The theme for the contest will be "Our Country, Our Children: Protecting Them Both." Dates for contest entry and judging will be announced later.

The Family Advocacy Program will participate in the annual Fun Fest, the Child and Youth Service's grand event in honor of the Month of the Military Child and Week of the Young Child. This event will be held April 26 at the Rheinlander.

The Family Advocacy and New Parent Education and Support Programs, as always, are available to provide classes upon request for units, Family Readiness Groups, professional organizations and others on any prevention-related topic.

All suspected child abuse should be reported to the Military Police by calling the 24-hour hotline at mil485-7546 or civ(06783)6-7546.

Information about events will be advertised throughout the community.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Col. John J. Buyer Jr., Landstuhl Dental Activity commander, and Col. E. Eldon Mitchell, Baumholder Dental Clinic commander, mark the activation of the Baumholder Dental Clinic Command with a traditional colors passing ceremony.

## BSB honors Volunteers of Quarter

The Volunteers of the Quarter were recognized Feb. 25 at the Town Hall Meeting. Each volunteer was presented a certificate, a 222nd Base Support Battalion commander's coin and a wooden plaque with the inscription "Volunteer of Quarter December to February" by Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd BSB commander.

The first of the two volunteers honored was Kathy Madison. Madison was recognized for her contribution to the Community Youth Services sports programs, the 8th Finance Battalion Family Readiness

Group and other community agencies.

Megan Madison, Youth Volunteer of the Quarter, was recognized for outstanding contributions to the CYS sports program, 8th Finance Battalion Family Readiness Group and other local organizations. The following individuals were also nominated for their volunteer service with the following organizations: Melissa Mullins, Baumholder Community Spouses Club; Angelika Hurley and Joan Blackwell, Thrift Shop; Joanna

Acevedo and Stella Steele, 40th Engineer Battalion.

### Volunteer training

Installation volunteer training participants receive knowledge of how to foster constructive relationships between volunteers and employees to create a higher level of productivity. Learn how to develop a positive work environment where both volunteers and employees can learn from each other and grow. The training will be conducted March 26 at Army Community Service. Call mil 485-8188 to sign up.

## Families gear up for deployment

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Preparing for deployment took on a new meaning recently when Baumholder's families readied for deployment during a family deploy-

ment readiness program Feb. 19 and 20. This special deployment preparation for soldiers and their families was a new approach to preparing families for deployment.

"We personalized deployment problems. We took a look at the planning process of those areas of

family separation that we often don't think through, such as an emergency back in the States. We presented stories to help people realize the different steps that they can take today to be prepared," said Donna Finney, Army Community Service officer.

Each session began in the theater with a briefing specifically tailored for family members. Different scenarios addressing problems that may arise during a deployment were presented. They were intended to inform and inspire thought and questions of family members. Following the briefing the members were invited to the Hall of Champions where representatives from the various support agencies were available to answer questions and provide assistance.

The Red Cross had emergency notification cards that family members could mail home in advance so that if there is an emergency at home, the notification process will not be delayed. Legal representatives were also there to help. They also provided legal powers of attorney on the spot.

"So if there was a deployment, family members are not rushing around trying to get things done and being all stressed. You would have done it all today (at the Family SRP), then you have quality time before the deployment rather than the stress," said Finney.

Although the program was designed for family members, ACS encouraged both the soldier and the family to attend. "We wanted both people together because this is planning for a family and they

need to go home and discuss the issues and see how it relates to them ... because this is a family decision," said Finney.

The briefings also addressed the emotional cycles of separation. "For example, especially newlyweds and before a deployment, people start pulling away from each other and maybe have a few arguments," said Finney. "They think that their marriage is falling apart and no, that's not it at all. They're just trying to protect themselves. It hurts to separate. So we covered those kinds of areas," said Finney.

To facilitate family attendance free child care was provided at the dispensary, the Strassburg CDC and at the Hall of Champions during each session.

"I think family members gained peace of mind," said Finney about the briefings. "That's what I think our mission here is, to give people peace of mind by helping them to gain the knowledge and the skills that they need to be self sufficient, so they know that there's someone out there who cares and they know where to turn for help if they need it," she said.

For more information about what services are available for families during deployment call mil 485-8188, civ (06783) 6-78188 or your unit Family Readiness Group.

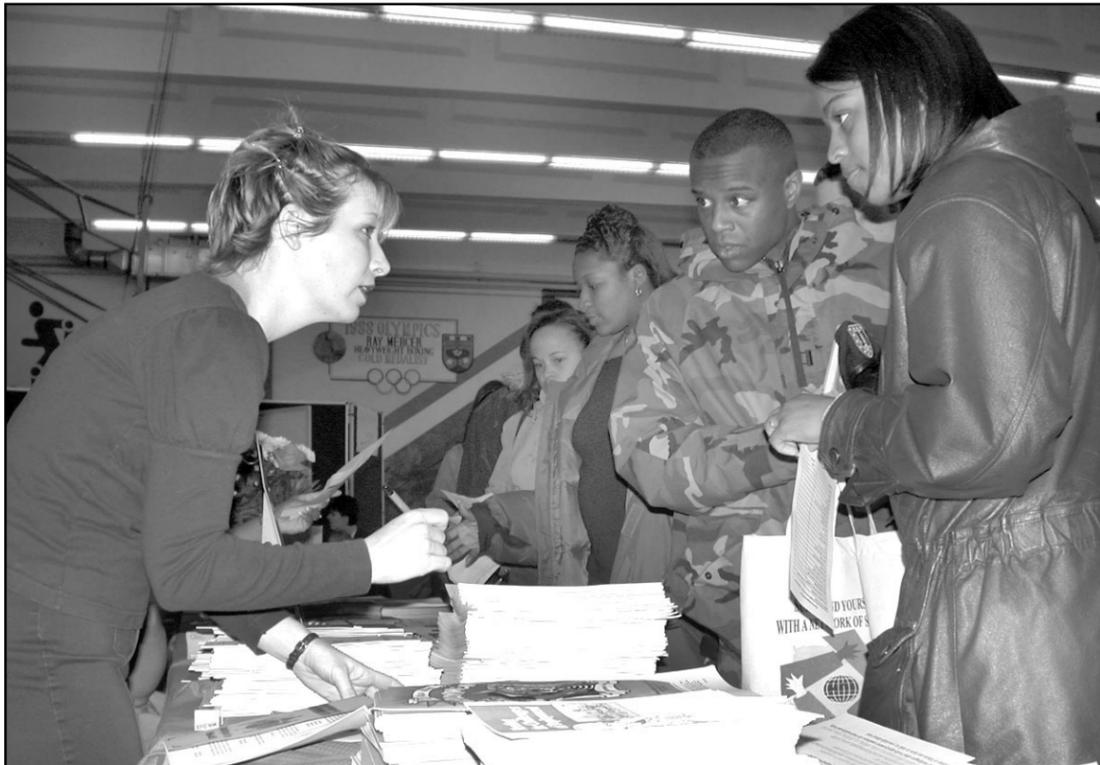


Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Participants receive first hand information at the recent family deployment readiness program that was conducted by the 222nd Base Support Battalion.

## ACS update

### Employment class

A local employment orientation class is offered the first and third Tuesday of every month from 9-10:30 a.m. by Army Community Service. It includes insights on employment opportunities and Resumix procedures in the Baumholder community and surrounding areas. Call Camille Jackson for more information or to schedule an appointment at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

### Cash for families

The Office of the Secretary of Defense raised the monthly overseas income limit for the Family Subsistence Supplement Allowance as of February. If service members or family members have applied for this program in the past and were denied, the possibility for qualification is now much greater.

For those who don't know what the program is, here is a quick preview. The Family Subsistence Supplement Allowance program provides large, low-income military

families with an additional tax-free subsistence allowance of up to \$500 per month. FSSA is voluntary, but the service member must apply and be certified to receive this assistance. Active duty and reserve component soldiers may participate in the plan provided they meet eligibility criteria. Eligibility standards are based upon rank, total household income, household size and living location.

If you are presently receiving FSSA assistance, an annual recertification must be conducted effective Feb. 1 of each year. Recertification must be completed in 30 days or less. In order to recertify applicants must bring their most recent Leave and Earning Statement and all dependent Social Security numbers, ages and birth dates. If the spouse is employed, bring a recent paycheck stub from his or her employer. All information is kept confidential. Current FSSA recipients or new applicants should contact Army Community Service at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

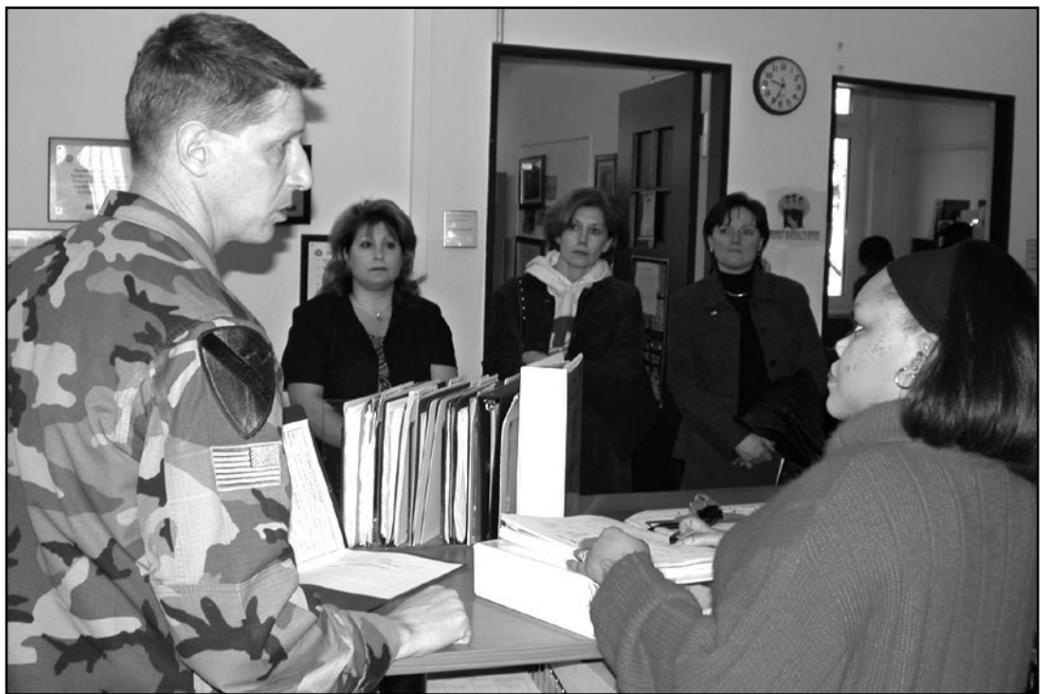


Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

### What's available?

Bridget Sanders, Army Community Service mobilization and deployment manager, explains to Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, the variety of services that would be available at the Baumholder Soldier and Family Assistance Center during a contingency operation. Buchs visited all the stations that were stood up at the ACS recently for a Family Assistance Center exercise. In addition to information and referral services, SFAC essential services include emergency financial assistance, legal information and assistance, identification and DEERS enrollment, and Tricare and DEERS assistance.

# 222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg

## Main gate closed

Baumholder's main entrance to Smith Barracks closed March 17.

To accommodate traffic flow the Chicago Avenue and Lower Washrack gates have been opened.

Chicago Avenue is for inbound trucks and privately owned vehicles, and the Lower Washrack gate is for outbound trucks and POVs.

Iron Man Crossing gate is now for in- and outbound POVs only and the Rod and Gun Club gate is open for inbound POVs only.

The North Tank Trail gate remains open for in- and outbound POVs only.

222nd Base Support Battalion officials urge everyone's cooperation during this renovation process that will enhance traffic flow procedures. A reopening date has not been determined.

## Yard sale set

The semi-annual Baumholder yard sale is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 10. The yard sale will be held in all Baumholder military housing areas and is open to U.S. identification card holders only. All property must be removed by 6 p.m. For more information contact the 222nd Base Support Battalion Adjutant's Office at mil485-7533/6080.

## Alcohol screening

National Alcohol Screening Day is April 10. Several members from the Baumholder CCC ASAP staff will be at the Shoppette from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. providing free alcohol screenings and assessments. Stop by and learn about some of the signs and symptoms that can trigger unhealthy use of alcohol.

## VA briefing

A Veterans Affairs benefits briefing is scheduled from 9-11 a.m. March 21 at Baumholder's Army Career and Alumni Program office. Learn about education benefits, VA home loan guarantees, disability compensation and more. For more information call mil485-6330.

## Welcome program

Newly arrived spouses can learn about the German customs and culture through the Newcomers Welcome Program. The program also includes German shopping and dining in Idar-Oberstein, learning the local public transportation system and an introduction to the German language. The class concludes with a day at the Army Family Team Building Level 1 class. The class is a three-day class, usually held the first Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of every month, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Free child care is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact ACS at mil485-8188 or civ(06783) 6-8188 to sign up.

# Post notes



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

## Kiss and ride

Gene Winfree, 222nd Base Support Battalion schools officer, helps a Smith Elementary School kindergartner find his ride home at the school's recently established Kiss and Ride station. Because of severe traffic congestion in front of the school and the potential danger to students when school lets out, 222nd BSB officials initiated this plan to control the traffic flow and assure students being picked up after school could easily and safely find their ride home. The Kiss and Ride plan allows for blocking through traffic for about 15 minutes, allowing only drivers picking up students to pass by the school.

## Job opening

The Baumholder Army Career and Alumni Program seeks a full-time career counselor/workshop facilitator. A master's degree and minimum of two years teaching/counseling/training is required. This is a tax deferred contract position with RCI-Resource Consultants Inc. U.S. identification card holder is preferred. Send resumes to [ericksenh@cmtymail.26asg.army.mil](mailto:ericksenh@cmtymail.26asg.army.mil). For more information call mil483-7089 or civ(06301)411-7089.

## Coaches, players

The Baumholder Sports Office is looking for coaches and players for men and women Softball Teams. Coach resumes should be submitted to the Sports Office by April 1. For more information contact the Baumholder Sports Office at mil485-6671/7176.

## Journalism Club

Youth Services has launched

three multimedia clubs for youth at Baumholder. The Journalism Club is available to youth wishing to further develop their writing or journalism skills. Youth work with an adviser to produce and publicize their own Internet newspaper, magazine and support the Automation Club with articles.

## Automation Club

The main goal of the Automation Club is to enhance youth knowledge of computer and Internet automation applications. Members learn to produce web pages, format HTML documents and troubleshoot hardware problems. An organizational meeting is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. March 19 at the Underground.

## Audio/Video Club

Members of the Audio/Video Club support the Journalism Club with digital pictures or video of recreational, sporting or commu-

nity events. They learn to produce digital video and audio tracks. An organizational meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m. March 21 at the Underground. These three clubs will be responsible for submitting information for the planned Youth Services web page.

For more information call the Teen Cafe at mil485-7062; the Underground at mil485-6937; Strassburg Youth Services at mil485-8625; Neubrücke Youth Services at mil485-7731; or Youth Services administration at mil485-7276.

## Red Cross roundup

Glenn Alexander is now the Baumholder American Red Cross assistant station manager. Alexander comes to Baumholder from the Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Red Cross station.

Baumholder's American Red Cross Station is looking for volun-

teers to fill the case management position. Case management/emergency messages is a very important ongoing part of the Red Cross's duties to the military community. Every single day the Red Cross processes approximately 5,000 messages to active duty military, retirees and their dependents.

The Red Cross is also looking to fill the volunteer leadership position of station chair and fund raising. The station chair position is a pivotal and crucial position equal in stature to the station manager.

Volunteers have always been the solid backbone of the American Red Cross. Baumholder's Red Cross station provides daily service to the military community, but it needs volunteers to continue providing its numerous services. Anyone interested in becoming an American Red Cross volunteer may contact Alexander or Jacquie Mack at mil485-1760.

## New museum hours

To better accommodate soldiers and their families during their off-duty time, the 1st Armored Division Museum in Baumholder has new operating hours. The new hours are Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1-5 p.m.

## Tax forms available

Service Credit Union is now providing laser-printed Internal Revenue Service tax forms for 2002 and previous years. Customers may request these forms from any SCU branch office.

## Winter sale

The Baumholder Community Spouses Club Thrift Shop is holding a big winter clearance sale. The Thrift Shop is located right next to the Service Mart in Building 8544, across from the PX. Its hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Consignment hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again from 2-4 p.m. For details call civ(06783) 6-6653 or mil485-6653.

## Goju lessons

Chinese Goju youth classes are held Mondays and Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. at Neubrücke Gym. The cost is \$30 each month and includes an official patch, testing, advancements, belts and certificates. Chinese goju is a combination of hard and soft elements in karate and kung fu. This discipline enhances flexibility, self-esteem and confidence. Master instructor Thomas Felder has 30 years of experience.

**Spotlight on Iron schools**



Photo by Susan Calef

**Hair-raising adventures of the mind**

Third-grade teacher Mistie Pulleyn dresses as Pippi Longstocking during Read Across America Day, March 3, at Wetzel Elementary School. Teachers and students dressed as their favorite literary characters during the annual celebration of the written word.

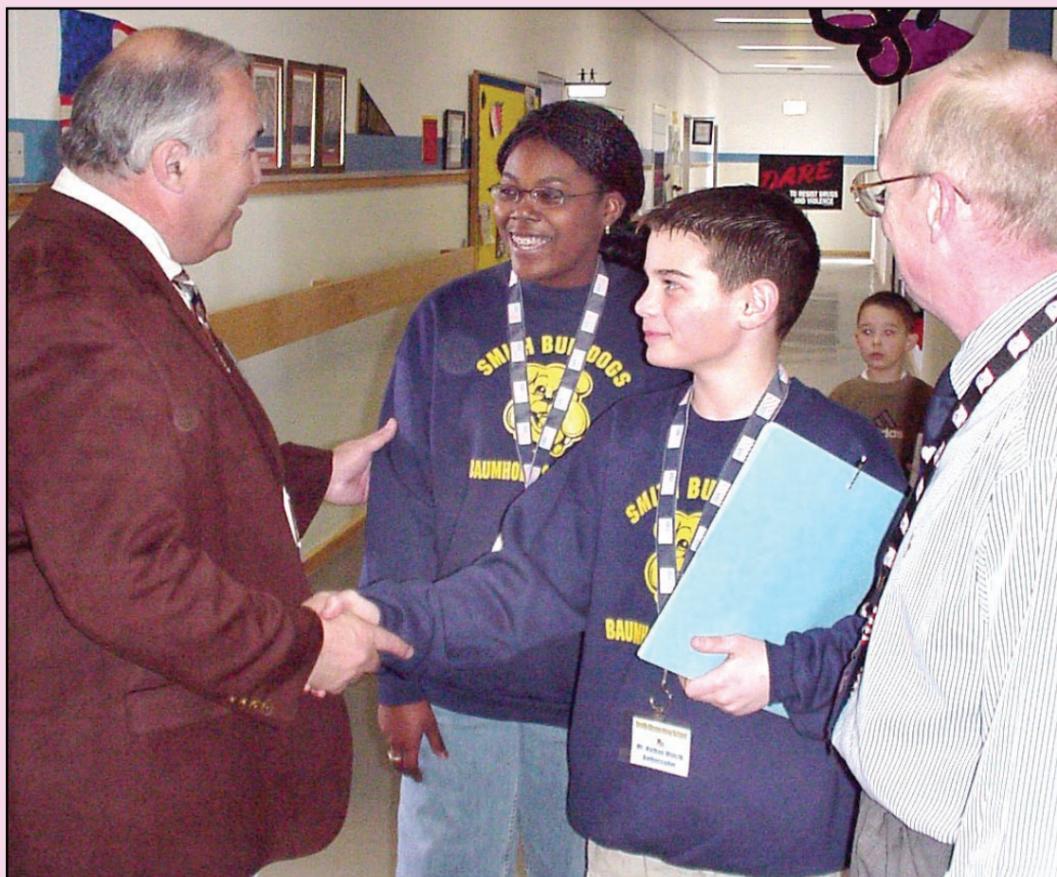


Photo by Peggy Hoffman-Schmidt

**Talking to the boss**

Dr. Joseph D. Tafoya (left), director of the Department of Defense Education Activity, greets Eboni Stone and Nate Wojack, his Smith Elementary School ambassadors, during a visit to the school Feb. 25. Smith principal Bill Rose looks on.

**Dot 'con' pitfalls costly**

By Capt. Catherine Lev  
Baumholder Legal Center

The Internet gives you, the consumer, almost unlimited opportunities and the world at your fingertips. Unfortunately this new technology also gives all kinds of scammers and tricksters access to you. Whether they are using the excitement of the Internet auction to incite consumers to part with their money, applying new technology to peddle traditional scams or cramming long-distance charges on their phone bill, scam artists are just a click away. Law enforcement officials have identified several "dot cons" for consumers who surf the Internet that are worth noting.

**International modem dialing**

The bait is free access to adult material and pornography by downloading a "viewer" or "dialer" computer program.

Through this program your modem is disconnected and then reconnected to the Internet using a long-distance international number. You are billed at exorbitant rates.

The fix is to just do without pornography. If you cannot, do not download any program to access a "free" service without carefully reading all the disclosures.

**Credit card fraud**

The bait here is surfing the Internet and viewing adult images for free just for sharing your credit card number to prove you are over 18.

The catch is that fraudulent promoters use the numbers they obtain to run up charges on the cards.

The fix again is to do without pornography. If you cannot, share credit card information only with companies you trust. Federal law limits your liability to \$50 if your card has been misused and reported in a timely manner.

**Web cramming**

**AWOL buys soldiers time**

**Pvt. 2 Kenneth C. Brown**, Company C, 2-6th Infantry, was found guilty on two counts of absent without leave, one count of assault consummated by a battery and one count of drunk and disorderly conduct by a summary court-martial at Baumholder March 4. He was sentenced to confinement for 30 days, reduction to private 1 and forfeiture of \$767. He is serving his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

**Pvt. 1 Michael A. Kozak Jr.**, Company C, 2-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of absent without leave and one count of loss of government property by a summary court-martial at Baumholder March 4. He received a

People are sometimes offered a free custom-designed website for a 30-day trial period with no obligation to continue.

Consumers have often reported having been overcharged on their phone bill or receiving a separate invoice even though they never accepted the offer or agreed to continue after the trial period.

To fix this review your phone bill and challenge any charges you do not recognize

**Multi-level pyramids**

The scam here is that people are offered the opportunity to make money through the products and services they sell as well as those sold by people they recruit into the program.

The catch is that customers are other distributors, not the general public.

When products or services are sold to distributors like yourself there is no way to make money. Only the person on the top of the pyramid gets any.

Protect yourself from this by avoiding plans that require you to recruit distributors, buy expensive inventory or commit to a minimum sales quota.

Here are some general hints that may help you spot or scare away a scammer:

Insist on getting all promises in writing. The scammer may decide that you, the informed consumer, are more trouble than you are worth.

Read the fine print. Fraudulent promoters bury disclosures they are not anxious to share with you.

Look for a privacy policy. If you do not see one, consider taking your business somewhere else.

Be skeptical of any company that operates out of a Post Office Box and does not share their phone number.

In short, prudence pays.

sentence of forfeiture of \$767.

**Spc. Jamie Ramirez**, Company C, 2-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of absent without leave by a summary court-martial at Baumholder Feb. 28. His sentence was confinement for 11 days, reduction to private 1 and forfeiture of \$767. He served his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.

**Spc. Elvin Maravillas**, Company B, 1-6th Infantry, was found guilty on one count of wrongfully using marijuana by a summary court-martial at Baumholder Feb. 26. He received a sentence of confinement for 30 days, reduction to private 1 and forfeiture of \$767. He is serving his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.